

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL896635910US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: William T. CHEN, ) RE: PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
et al. )  
Serial No.: Not yet assigned ) Group: Not yet assigned  
Filed: Concurrently herewith ) Examiner: Not yet assigned  
For: "METHOD OF FORMING ) Our Ref: B-4361 619261-9  
SELECTIVE ELECTROLESS PLATING )  
ON POLYMER SURFACES" ) Date: December 18, 2001

*2/Pre a  
J. Steptoe  
5-29-02*

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Box New Patent Application  
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, it is respectfully requested that the following amendments be made to the Claims:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace original Claims 4-6, 9, 11, 14-15, and 17 with amended Claims 4-6, 9, 11, 14-15, and 17, which are set forth below. (Appendix A, which is enclosed herewith, shows how original Claims 4-6, 9, 11, 14-15, and 17 were amended to produce amended Claims 4-6, 9, 11, 14-15, and 17.)

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the substrate material is an aromatic polymer and the strippable coating comprises a non-aromatic polymer.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, comprising using the same laser to ablate the strippable coating and to activate the

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